

Forest Service

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News Release

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CHEQUAMEGON-NICOLET NATIONAL FOREST REPAIRING ROADS DAMAGED BY JULY 15-17 STORM EVENT, NORTH COUNTY TRAIL REROUTE

WASHBURN, Wis. (June 29, 2018) – The Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest is making progress on emergency repairs to roads damaged by flash flooding and heavy rain earlier this month.

"Today, we are opening up additional roads and portions of a few other roads – please check the maps on our website for the latest listings," said Brad Turberville, District Ranger on the Washburn Ranger District of the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest. "The Forest's heavy equipment operators, engineering staff and employees have been working hard this week to repair priority roads so they can be open once again to traffic."

Portions of the North Country Trail through the Rainbow Lake Wilderness were damaged by the storm event. The Forest has worked with the North Country Trail Association to put reroutes in place using Forest Roads 228 and 392. Maps showing this reroute are available on the website. The Forest is making arrangements to bring in a cross cut saw crew from the Superior National Forest as well as other resources to begin clearing the trails of blowdown and other damage.

"As visitors and adjacent property owners arrive for the weekend and the fourth of July holiday next week – we want to remind everyone to be vigilant of the damage that occurred and that things could change if we get additional rain or storm events," said Turberville. "Please keep alert and drive slow in impacted areas."

If you are traveling in the impacted area or planning a hike in the Rainbow Lake Wilderness please check the website for the latest conditions. If you have questions or concerns about particular Forest Roads or damage please contact the nearest Forest Service office.

For more information, visit Inciweb: https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5852/; or the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest website: www.fs.usda.gov/CNNF or call the Washburn Ranger District at 715-373-2667. You can also follow us on Twitter at http://twitter.com/CNNF002 or like us on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/CNNF002.

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